

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Janice Au-Young

Title: NOVEL HUMAN STEM CELL ANTIGENS

Serial No.: Not yet assigned Filing Date: Herewith

Examiner: K. Canella Group Art Unit: 1642

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Box Patent Application

PRELIMINARY REMARKS

Sir:

First, Applicants respectfully request that the instant application be assigned to Examiner Karen Canella of Group Art Unit 1642, who currently is also examining two copending applications (Ser. Nos. 09/225,080 [directed to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2] and 09/711,064 [directed to antibodies that are specific for the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1] related to the same ancestor application (Ser. No. 08/675,508, filed July 3, 1996, now US 5,856,136 [directed to polynucleotides encoding polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:2]) as the instant application, in order to expedite prosecution of the instant application and ensure consistent review of the family.

Second, further in the interest of expediting prosecution of the instant application, which is directed to antibodies that specific for the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2, and anticipating that some of the objections made in the Ser. No. 09/711,064 with respect to the antibodies that are specific for the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1 claimed therein, as well as objections made in the co-pending application 09/225,080, might be repeated in the instant application, Applicants submit the following comments regarding issues which might be raised with respect to the instant claims.